MICHIGAN FARMER,

AND WESTERN HORTICULTURIST.

"AGRICULTURE IS THE NOBLEST, AS IT IS THE MOST NATURAL PURSUIT OF MAN."

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THE MICHIGAN FARMER,
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W. F. STOREY & R. S. CHENEY.

TERMS,

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From the Farmers' Cabinet.

Keeping Cattle Warm.

If we look abroad at the habits or necessities of people, we find that as we advance from south to north, the consumption of animal food increases. In hot climates, under the tropics, for instance, the diet is almost exclusively a vegetable one. Under a latitude of forty or fifty degrees, we require considerable animal food—if we advance to the frozen regions of the north, whale oil and bears' fat, are found among the luxuries of the board. These gross materials, almost to the exclusion of vegetables, are there found indispensable to keep up the necessary supply of nutrition and warmth. It has been long known both to chemists and observing men, that a cold atmosphere requires an extra quantity of food to sustain life and health; and this observation is just as applicable to the cattle and horses whose home is at our barns, as it is to our own species. If they are kept warm—housed from the storm, and shielded from unnecessary exposure, they will need less food than if left unprotected through the winter in the open yard. In point of economy then, as well as from kindliness of feeling, it is our interest to look to the comfort of our stock. The winter profit to be realised from milch cows, is unquestionably much affected by their treatment in this respect, and every one who would make the most of his cattle in this latitude, must carefully attend to their comfort. I copy the following remarks from the fourth part of Johnston's Agricultural Lectures, as particularly in point. These Lectures have been much spoken of and much read, and fault has been found with them on account of their scientific character. There is, however, abundance of practical matter in them, that may be made available by every intelligent farmer. The extracts now forwarded for the Cabinet, will, I think, do something towards confirming this assertion. N. S.

Burlington co., N. J.

"The degree of warmth in which the animal is kept, or the temperature of the atmosphere in which it lives, affects the quantity of food which the animal requires to eat. The heat of the animal is inseparably connected with its respiration. The more frequently it breathes, the warmer it becomes, and the more carbon it throws off from its lungs. It is believed, indeed, by many, that the main purpose of respiration is to keep up the heat of the body, and that this heat is produced very much in the same way as in a common fire, by a slow combustion of that carbon which escapes in the form of carbonic acid from the lungs. Place a man in a cold situation, and he will either starve or he will adopt some means of warming himself. He will probably take exercise, and by this means cause himself to breathe quicker.—But to do this for a length of time, he must be supplied with more food. For not only does he give off more carbon from his lungs, but the exercise he takes causes a greater natural waste also of the substance of his body.

"So it is with all animals. The greater the difference between the temperature of the body and that of the atmosphere in which they live, the more food they require to "feed the lamp of life,"—to keep them warm, that is, and to supply the natural waste. Hence the importance of plantations as a shelter from cold winds, to grazing stock—of open sheds, to protect fattening stock from the nightly dews and colds—and even of closer covering to quiet and gentle breeds of cattle or sheep, which feed without restlessness, and quickly fatten.

"A proper attention to the warmth of his cattle or sheep, therefore, is of great practical consequence to the feeder of stock. By keeping them warm, he diminishes the quantity of food which is necessary to sustain them, and leaves a larger proportion for the production of beef or mutton.

"Various experiments have been lately published, which confirm the opinions above deduced from theoretical considerations. Of these I shall only mention one by Mr. Childers, in which twenty sheep were folded in the open field, and twenty of nearly equal weight, were placed under a shed *in* a yard. Both lots were fed for three months—January, February, and March—upon turnips, as many as they chose to eat, half a pound of linseed cake, and half a pint of barley each sheep, per day, with a little hay and salt.—The sheep in the field consumed the same quantity of food, all the barley and oil-cake, and about 19 lbs. of turnips per day, from the first to last, and increased on the whole 36 stone 3 lbs.—Those under the shed consumed at first as much food as the others, but after the third week they eat 2 lbs. of turnips each less in the day, and in the ninth week, again 2 lbs. less, or only 15 lbs. a day. Of the linseed-cake, they also eat about one-third less than the other lot, and yet they increased in weight 56 stone 6 lbs., or 20 stone more than the others.

"Thus the cold and exercise in the field caused the one lot to convert more of their food into dung, the other, more of it into mutton.

"The absence of light has also a material influence upon the effects of food in increasing the size of animals. Whatever excites attention in an animal, awakens, disturbs, or makes it restless, appears to increase the natural waste, and to diminish the effect of food in rapidly enlarging the body. The rapidity with which fowls are fattened in the dark, is well known to rearers of poultry. In India, the habit prevails of sewing up the eyelids of the wild hog-deer, the spotted deer, and other wild animals, when netted in the jungles, with the view of taming and speedily fattening them. The absence of light indeed, however produced, seems to soothe and quiet all animals, to dispose them to rest, to make less food necessary, and to induce them to store up more of what they eat, in the form of fat and muscle.

"An experiment made by Mr. Morton, on the feeding of sheep, shows the effect at once of shelter, of quiet, and of the absence of light upon the quantity of food eaten, and of mutton produced from it.

"Five sheep of nearly equal weights, were fed each with a pound of oats a day, and as much turnips as they chose to eat. One was fed in the open air, two in an open shed—one of them being confined in a crib—two more were fed in a close shed in the dark, and one of these also was confined in a crib, so as to lessen as much as possible the quantity of exercise it should take. The increase of live weight in each of the five, and the quantity of turnips they respectively consumed, appear in the following table:

	Live weight.		Increase.	Turnips eaten.	Increase for each 100 lbs. of turnips.
	Nov. 18.	Mar. 9.			
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Unsheltered,	103	181.7	23.7	1912	1.2
In open sheds,	102	120.3	17.3	1894	0.9
Do. but confined in cribs,	102	130.2	28.2	1258	1.8
In a close shed in the dark,	104	132.4	28.4	836	3.1
Do. but confined in cribs,	111	131.3	20.3	836	2.4

A Useful Plant.—The Hon. Mr. Ellsworth says, the sun-flower is perhaps destined to become one of our most valuable products. One hundred pounds of the seed, afford forty pounds of oil. The refuse of the seed after expression, furnishes an excellent food for cattle; from the leaves of the plant, cigars are manufactured of singular pectoral qualities; the stock affords a superior alkali, and the combs of the seed is a choice dainty for swine.

The olive, it is also stated by Mr. Ellsworth, Commissioner of Patents, may be cultivated in the Southern States, as far north as the Carolinas. It will yield in this country a fair crop for oil at four years old, and at eight as much as it does in Europe at twenty. The tree is of great longevity, living to be 1000 to 1200 years old.

From the Boston Cultivator.

Salt for Fruit Trees.

Messrs. Editors:—I observe in a late number of your valuable paper, a communication by a Mr. Dupin, on the effect of salt on fruit trees, &c. I am induced to send you the following statement, from an old newspaper. The writer of it, upon a visit to a friend in New Jersey in 1794, took particular notice of a pear tree in the yard of his friend; attracted by its uncommon foilage and bloom, and its being more forward than any of its kind. In one night's time, this beautiful appearance was destroyed—the tree seemed as if it had been near a fire—the leaves were turned to a dull brown and were much contracted; the blossoms all decayed and hardly visible, and some of the small fruit falling off. So rapid a change naturally led to an inquiry into the cause. Some ascribed it to lightning—others to a partial blight. At length it appeared, that during the preceding fall, the shelter of the tree had been used by the family when salting pork, beef, &c., and when the business was finished, a considerable quantity of salt which had not been used, was left at the foot of the tree in an old flour barrel; a violent and lasting rain fell soon after, dissolved and carried the salt into the ground and no further notice was taken of it. Being informed of this fact, the writer states, that he proceeded to examine the branches, cutting off one of them. He found the leaves not only highly impregnated, but incrusted, with a visible saline matter. This at once disclosed the origin of the disease, and during the summer, the tree died, owing, as he supposes, to the large quantity of salt taken into the circulation. This statement was written at a time when salt was attempted to be introduced as an article of manure. It would therefore appear from these facts, if correctly stated, that it is possible to use too much salt, and that experiments, carefully and repeatedly made, can alone indicate the proper proportions to be employed, if, as Mr. Dupin seems to think, a certain quantity may be useful.

Oct. 12, '44. Veritas.

EDITORIAL REMARKS.

We have no doubt that on most all soils, that are not too wet for tillage, a moderate quantity of salt, say from five to ten bushels to the acre, would be beneficial to most all crops, yet in many cases the benefit would be so small that there would be no profit in applying this manure, especially where a full price is to be paid for the article, and something of consequence added for transportation.

We need numerous experiments to show on what soils salt is most beneficial, and this is a nice point, as we must not only know the general texture of the soil, but its composition chemically, in order to arrive at exact principles, that shall direct the inquirer. But this requires too much nicety for general purposes. We shall learn from experience in this as we have in the use of ashes, and find to what soils, as a general thing it is most useful.

Besides the various effects on different soils, the effects of salt on different plants will be widely different. Asparagus is very much improved by so liberal an application of salt as will kill all weeds and most plants cultivated. A bushel to a square rod, or 160 bushels to the acre is recommended, and has been used to advantage, or dock mud is preferable. We have cultivated Indian corn, beans, potatoes and peach trees on land overflowed with salt water at very high tides in spring and fall, and they all did well excepting the potatoes, which nearly failed.

Most all fruit trees are benefitted by salt. They become more vigorous and the fruit is larger and fairer. When applied around plum trees it promotes their health and vigor, prevents the black wart, and the operations of the curculio. It was thought that the last result was owing to the insect being killed in the earth, but now it is supposed that the salt is taken up in the circulation, and pervading the whole tree and fruit it becomes offensive to this little mischievous creature which probably is very fastidious in taste and nice in its perceptions.

The quantity of salt usually applied around plum trees is about two quarts to each of a middling size. Twenty bushels to the acre, or half a peck to the square rod would probably be about the right quantity for plum trees. Two quarts to each apple tree of a good size has been used to advantage. This would be about seven or eight bushels to the acre.

Turneps and cabbages are much benefitted by salt, and it has the important advantage of destroying worms and insects which are frequently very destructive to these plants. Salt has a very favorable effect on dry lands in attracting moisture, and on this account it is valuable for light sandy soils, provided that it is generally favorable to the crop cultivated.

Manuring with Lime.

The duration of the action of lime manure, depends, first, on the quantity used, and on several other circumstances, to be alluded to. If the amount of lime is calculated of which the soil is deprived by one harvest, it will be found that 500 pounds per acre should be sufficient for many years; still the plants cannot absorb all the lime which has been brought on a field, because they do not penetrate with their roots every particle of earth; and a great part of the lime is nearly lost to the plants by its combining with the hydrated silica contained in the soil, forming a compound insoluble in water. Another portion is dissolved by the rain and snow-water, so much, viz: as has combined with humic and carbonic acids into salts, which are soluble in water. The silicated lime, it is true, is again in its turn decomposed by the carbonic and humic acids of the soil, whereby humate and carbonate of lime will be formed; but this always takes place so slowly, that the plants cannot derive much benefit from it. These processes, therefore, fully explain why the manuring with lime needs to be repeated, and why its effect, although (by using large quantities) it may last 25 or 30 years, will not last with small ones more than 6 or 7 years. It is, moreover, to be considered that the salts, which are produced in the soil by manuring with lime, are generally difficultly soluble in water, and consequently that the soil must contain a considerable quantity of them, if they are to improve the growth of plants or aid their nourishment.

The ways in which lime is used as manure, are different. Sometimes, small heaps are formed of it on a field previously plowed; these heaps are covered very closely, with a layer of earth, two or three inches thick, and the lime has to remain in that state until it has become slaked. These heaps are afterwards well worked up with the soil above and beneath; the lime is carfully spread, then harrowed and plowed under about two inches deep; the land is then harrowed; then another plowing, somewhat deeper than the first is performed; and the whole operation is concluded by harrowing. Although this process is very simple, and requires little manual labor, it is not to be doubted that it is still imperfect. In the first place, as the heap soon becomes cracked by the swelling of the lime, it will not be protected by the earth from the influence of the atmospheric air, which will cause it to loose its caustic quality; and consequently mixed with the soil, it will not act so powerfully on the organic matter and the coal of humus contained in it.

Another way of using lime is to throw it into one or more large heaps, and to pour so much water upon it as to entirely slake it, and convert it at once into a powder. Three pounds of burnt lime will require for that purpose one pound of water; i. e. the two combine chemically in that proportion, and become converted into a dry, very fine powder. On the other hand, not too much water is to be taken, else a pap will be produced which cannot be spread about, and which when dry, will form a hard mortar. If some lumps of lime should not be slaked, they are to be thrown aside, when the lime-dust is conveyed on the fields, and these again sprinkled over with water, and if they should not then fall to pieces, they are either not pure lime, or have not been sufficiently burnt, which can be easily ascertained by trying them with a little acid. The main object after the lime has been slaked, is to spread it as soon as possible over the field, and to proceed with it as stated before; because everything depends on the lime coming in as caustic state as possible on the ground, in order to accomplish what we expect.

The third method of manuring with lime is the following:—It is placed in conical heaps in alternate layers with vegetable mould, taking three or four parts of earth to one of lime, over which the necessary quantity of water is afterwards poured; the heap is then well covered, either with turf or straw, over which some earth is to be thrown, and the whole left quiet for three or four weeks. Afterwards, the lime, which by this time has been converted into powder, and the vegetable mould are well worked up, and then carried on the field. There is no donbt that this method, provided earth be at hand, is to be preferred to any other; as all will remain caustic, and will act in the heap very powerfully on the coal of humus. The greatest amount of labor it occasions, is fully repaid by the produce obtained, as a considerable quantity of humate of lime is produced, which as we shall see hereafter, is a superior manure. Vegetable mould, however, is to be had everywhere.

In some countries the slaked lime-powder is strewed over the clover-stubble, it is then shallow plowed, and before rye or wheat is sown, the field is harrowed and plowed several times. But it is not advisable on any account, to strew the lime-powder over our growing crops, because as it is soluble in water, it easily corrodes the plants. It may, however, be used in that way on meadows, on which much moss is growing, as it destroys those plants, and after it has united with the humic acid of the soil, it will elicit clover and sweet grasses.

It is also a general rule never to manure with lime in wet weather, for it will then combine with the sand of the soil into mortar. If, however, the lime is once well mixed up with the soil, rainy weather is desirable, as it then soon becomes dissolved and thoroughly mixed with the furrow slice, and then acts strongly on humes, the organic matter, worms, &c.—*Prof. Sprengel.*

Hen House.

Many farmers that keep hens complain that they do not lay in the season of the year when eggs are in the greatest demand either for consumption in the family or for the market. It is well known that with all the attention that can be bestowed on fowls, that they will not lay so well in cold weather, and hence the high price of eggs at that season; yet much may be done to encourage the production of eggs in the inclement season, and frequently with profit too. Near a good market, one egg a week each, in the months of November, December and January, will pay for the food usually consumed by hens.

Though in some cases great pains have been taken to make hens lay in cold weather, and without success, yet this is not generally the case. Most persons that wisely manage in this respect, have very good success. Hens should be provided with a warm dry house; it would be well to have the house so warm that water would not freeze in the coldest weather, and when the weather is mild it should be well ventilated.

Last fall we gave what we considered the best plan for a hen house, and for the benefit of many new readers we will now repeat the substance of it in a few words. Make a house 6 or 7 feet high, 10 feet wide and 10, 20, or 30 feet long, or longer, each length of ten feet forming a section. Divide it lengthwise into three parts of equal width; the centre of which will serve as a walk and on each side to every ten feet will be a ward, which should be constructed as follows:—About four feet from the ground or the ground floor, make a flooring over the whole ward, excepting about ten inches square at each corner, by the wall, for the hens to come up through.

Over this floor put two roosts, about ten or 15 inches above it, according to the height of the house. On going up on this floor a hen can walk along and take any empty roost, and the manure should be frequently removed from the floor, and a little plaster, ashes, charcoal dust, or sand thrown on it, unless the manure is to be saved for morocco dressers. By adding a small quantity of plaster and charcoal dust to the dung, the amonia will be fixed and good *guano* may be made. If the manure be not removed, the ammonia will injure the fowl's eyes, when closely confined.

On a line with the walk, and about 13 inches under the front of the flooring, put a piece of board a few inches wide, with the edge up, extending from one end of the section to the other, for the front of the nests to rest on. On a level with this and one foot back from it put a board, one foot wide, flat side up, extending like a narrow strip from one end of the section to the other, for the front of the nests to rest on. Then make nests of light thin boards, one foot wide from right to left, that there may be ten to a section, and about thirteen inches high, and about the same from front to back.

These nests will rest on the edge of the narrow board, and go back and rest on the wide board an inch or two, then the hens can walk along on the wide board back of the nests, and take any one they please. The nests should be about six or seven inches high, excepting every second one should extend up to the flooring on the sides to form a division. They will be open on the upper part at the back part, and the open space in front should be closed with a piece of board, to be removed for the purpose of taking out the eggs.

At each end a short piece of board should extend from the wide board named above, back to the wall, from which the fowls can go up through the flooring.—Against the wall in the centre, there should be a piece of board, about 15 inches from the ground, and from this there should be a piece at each end, extending up slanting to the two short pieces just named; on these slanting pieces there should be some cleats. Then the hens can occupy all the ground, or ground floor, without impediment; then can jump up on the piece by the wall and walk up the ladders, and go along the wide board to any nest, or go up thro' the flooring and to any roost.—This gives economy in room as the fowls can occupy the whole ground, then above it the nests, then the flooring and then the roosts, and a free passage to all, and the manure nearly all saved, in the cold season and removed.

There should be a window in each ward, extending up about as high as the roost, and down to within a foot and a half of the ground. This may be taken out in summer for the purpose of ventilation. The fowls may occupy the walk, or it may be kept neat and clean, by putting laths from the flooring to the roof, and from the nest to the ground. Instead of building a house on purpose, part of a shed or other building may be finished off in this way as a section, or as a single ward, just by taking a place about three feet wide any desirable length. A hen-house may be rendered warm by banking it up with common earth, and this can be done in favorable situations with but very little labor.—*Bost. Cult.*

Black Sea Wheat.—In our March number, page 75, we published a communication from Clark Rich, Esq. on the subject of Black Sea wheat. We lately received another article from the same gentleman, in which he informs us that this kind of wheat continues to maintain its superiority over other kinds, for that section of country. It is a spring wheat. Its distinguishing excellencies are, hardiness, freedom from rust, and other diseases, and generally producing a better yield, especially on unfavorable soils and in unfavorable seasons, than other varieties. There is a white and a red-chaff kind. The white-chaff is said to yield as well, but the millers prefer the red-chaff, as giving better flour. It is said not to make as good flour as good tea-wheat; but since the millers have found how to grind it, the flour is well liked. This wheat has been much disseminated for a few years past, and wherever spring wheat is cultivated, has been much esteemed. Mr. Rich says, "it is believed that this wheat will yield better than rye, even where rye has heretofore been considered the safest crop." Mr. Rich informs us that prime Black-sea wheat can be delivered at the landing, Shoreham, Vt., at $1 12 per bushel—and procured of the farmers for $1 per bushel.—*Alb. Cult.*

Michigan Ingenuity.—In an account of the exhibition of American manufactures by the Franklin Institute at Philadelphia, we find the following notice of an invention by one of our citizens:

Patent Drilling, Boring, Mortising and Screw Cutting machine, invented by Mr. A. A. Wilder, of Detroit, Michigan. This useful and curious machine performs all the above operations with great rapidity and ease, and the change from one to the other is made almost instantaneously. The seeming impossible operation of boreing a square hole is accomplished with ease and precision.—The machine is deposited by J. N. McFarlan.

The Toad.—That poor, despised and harmless reptile, is admirable in its proportions, and has an eye of such transcendent beauty, that when I find one I place it on my hand to view it more minutely. Its skin too, so completely adapted to the subteranean places into which it goes for shelter, is well worth the attention of the philosopher. As this little animal is innocuous, I feel sorry when I see it trampled under foot by inconsiderate people, who have learned from their grandmothers that it is full of venom.—*Waterton's Ornithology.*

☞ To make good pickled pork, simply pack the side pieces in a barrel or cask, with plenty of salt on all sides of each piece, and when full, roll it to the pump, and pump in water till you see it cease to sink or to moisten the pork on the top of the barrel, then lay a flat stone as large as the vessel, to keep the pork always under the pickle: cover the cask, to exclude flies.—*West Far.*

M. Arago says the atmospheric pressure principle may be so applied, as to insure safe transit at the rate of six leagues a minute, or a thousand miles an hour.

"Two or three spoonfuls of strong ley made of oak ashes are recommended as a positive cure for croup."

The Artichoke.

Several trials which we have known made with this root, indicate that it is one of the most valuable for stock which can be cultivated. A few years ago, a gentleman of our acquaintance, planted a small patch of rich ground with them. The produce was at the rate of 1200 bushels per acre. They were principally harvested by hogs, which were turned in and allowed to root them up as their appetite prompted. They gained well, with no other food, while the artichokes lasted. A great advantage of this root is, that it will lie in the ground without injury all winter.

Mr. Thomas Noble, of Massilon, gave us a brief account of a trial with artichokes, made by him the past season. In April, 1843, he planted two acres with this vegetable. The ground was of medium quality. The artichokes were planted in rows 2½ to 3 feet apart, using a little more seed than is commonly used in planting potatoes. As soon as the frost was out of the ground last spring (1844,) the digging of them was begun and continued as the stock required. The produce of the two acres was 1500 bushels. They were fed principally to sheep, though some were given to cattle, horses and hogs. All animals ate them well, seeming to prefer them to turneps. While the sheep were being fed with them, they were pastured on growing wheat and clover. The shepherd thought the wheat and clover was sufficient for them, as there was a "full bite," and he accordingly discontinued the artichokes. The ewes "fell off" in their milk, and the lambs soon showed that they were not doing so well. The artichokes were again given, and they soon did as well as ever.

Mr. Noble also used the tops for fodder. He cut them in October, just before frost came, dried and housed them. They were fed to the stock in winter, and were evidently preferred to corn fodder.

Mr. N. is so well pleased with artichokes, that he has raised them this year on a larger scale. They require but little cultivation; it being only necessary to keep the ground clear of weeds till the artichokes get a good start.

Mr. T. M. Johnson, of Greensbro,' Alabama, lately informed us that he is this year growing 30 acres of artichokes. He considers them the most profitable vegetable he can raise. In that climate they can be dug any time in the winter.

There are several varieties of artichokes, but that called the Jerusalem artichoke (Helianthus tuberosus) is considered best. From the fibres of the tops or stems, a cordage is sometimes manufactured in some parts of Europe.—*Alb. Cult.*

Feeding Fowls.—"A subscriber" inquires "which is the best grain for feeding fowls, eggs being the object?"

Fowls require a variety of food. Grain of all kinds is good. *Wheat-screenings*, which can be had at all mills where wheat is ground, constitute a cheap and good feed for fowls. Buckwheat, barley, oats and Indian corn, should also be given occasionally. They should also have animal food. This may be supplied from the offals of slaughter houses. If they are kept confined, they should have occasionally some cabbages cut up and given them. Potatoes and turneps will also be found useful.

One of the greatest benefits to be conferred upon the agricultural community, to induce a spirit of improvement amongst the sand-still, illiterate farmers, would be for practical and scientific farmers to give public lectures, gratis, to be employed by State or other agricultural societies, upon practical and scientific husbandry.

He is only worthy of esteem that knows what is just and honest, and dares do it—that is master of his own passions, and scorns to be a slave to another's.—Such a one in the poorest poverty, is a far better man, and merits more respect, than those gay things who owe all their greatness and reputation to their rentals and revenues.

Take an Agricultural paper, and some good family paper, and pay for them in advance.

MICHIGAN FARMER.

JACKSON, DECEMBER 1, 1844.

To the Patrons of the Farmer.

The undersigned, having purchased the Michigan Farmer establishment, will continue the publication of the paper in the village of Jackson. It will be issued, as heretofore, until the expiration of the present volume, on the 1st and 15th of each month, and mailed regularly and punctually to subscribers.

—On the expiration of the present volume, the *form* of the paper will be changed; it will be issued *monthly*, on the first of each month. The form proposed to be adopted is a duodecimo of twenty-four pages, making a volume at the end of the year of two hundred and eighty-eight pages, in suitable shape for binding. New and beautiful type will be obtained for its use; a cover of colored paper will be furnished: and arrangements are in progress to procure cuts to illustrate each number of the work: thus rendering it a highly elegant periodical.

In conducting the paper, besides the labors of the editors, the services of a competent scientific gentleman will be obtained, whose name will be hereafter announced.

It will be the purpose of the publishers to make the Farmer a desirable vehicle of agricultural intelligence. The farmers of Michigan ought and can well sustain a publication of this character, suitable to their wants. No state can boast of a more intelligent agricultural community; and few, if any, have richer soils and more natural elements of wealth than Michigan. The farmer has only to pursue his legitimate occupation—and it is a most honorable one—to reap rich returns for his labor, and make himself and family competent and happy.

It is perhaps unnecessary to indicate to the patrons of the Farmer any particular line of conduct that will mark the management of the paper. Its merits can best be judged as it shall appear before them. The publishers are aware that the patronage that will be extended to it will be commensurate with its usefulness and utility. This is all they ask or desire.

We set out on our voyage with confidence,—with the hope that it will be a long and prosperous one.—We shall feel that we are engaged in a common cause with the mass of the people, and that their interest is our interest. If the messenger we shall send forth shall find a welcome at the fireside of the stately mansion, the neat and simple cottage, or the more humble cabin, our courage will be renewed, and we shall pursue the voyage with a light heart and overflowing gratitude.

STOREY & CHENEY.

Agents.

All local Agents for the Farmer, except Post Masters, and those who have formed clubs, are discontinued. Subscribers who wish to transmit money should hand it directly to the Post Master, by whom it will be transmitted free of postage.

Traveling Agent.—*David M Bagley* is our regularly appointed Traveling Agent, for this State. He is authorized to obtain subscribers, and give receipts in payment for subscriptions, as well as to collect and receipt all dues to the office. He is now on a collecting tour through the southern counties, and will soon visit other portions of the state. We hope subscribers will be prepared for him.

Crystalized Maple Sugar.—We learn from the Central N. Y. Farmer that Mr. John Wilkinson, of Unionvale, Dutchess county, in that State, presented at the recent fair of the New York State Ag. Society, at Poughkeepsie, a sample of crystalized maple sugar, of different manufacture from any thing that has ever before been made. It was perfectly crystalized, was pure and nearly transparent, but had the sweet and peculiar taste of loaf sugar. Mr. W. did not impart the secret of the method of manufacture, which is only known to himself.

To Correspondents.—The former correspondents of the Farmer seem to have forgotten its existence. We have not had the gratification of receiving a single favor at their hands. Will they not, now that the election is over, and all can return to peace and quiet, renew their contributions?

The favors of new contributors will be thankfully received. We conceive it to be the duty of those of our farmers who can contribute any thing to the common stock of agricultural knowledge, to favor their fellows with it. There are few, none perhaps, who in their experience have not discovered something that would be of benefit to others. The columns of an agricultural paper are a desirable medium of imparting such information.

Where the farmer is in fault.—It has always appeared to us that the western farmer devotes too much of his labor, for his own interest, to the raising of a particular crop, instead of turning his attention to a diversity of crops, and the raising of different kinds of farm stock. Now, to say the most, wheat is a somewhat uncertain crop, and to our own knowledge, in some portions of the west, the farmer has suffered severely from the loss of his wheat, because of the fact that he had neglected to cultivate other crops, and to rear that kind of stock which can be so readily converted into cash. The article of pork, for instance, which three years since was so low in price that there was no profit in raising it, has now become one of the best marketable articles the farmer can have; but in consequence of the fact that subsequently throughout the country the raising of hogs has been limited, it is now found difficult to obtain the necessary supply for fattening. Hence, with the failure of his wheat crop, his main dependence, the farmer finds himself measurably destitute.

It is very easy to avoid such a state of things, with the exercise of a little foresight. Though an article may be low in price, the farmer should not neglect its cultivation. A calm is no less sure to succeed a storm, than a reaction is certain to take place in the value of a staple article of produce which may have reached an unnaturally low point.

The article of wool is one which the western farmer may with the greatest safety produce. Sheep can be obtained at reasonable prices, and with so much economy can they be kept, that competition with the eastern wool-growers will be perfectly successful.

We throw out these hints for the consideration of our farmers. It must be acknowledged there is much room for amendment in the system of agriculture now pursued.

The Disease in the Potatoe.—There is no crop of vegetables of so much value and importance to all classes, as the potatoe. The disease which pervades the crop the present year throughout the eastern states is a source of alarm, inasmuch that as yet the cause of the "rot" has not been determined.—The crop throughout the great State of New York is stated to be ruined. The Shakers who engaged to deliver fifteen thousand bushels into the city have given notice of inability to furnish a single bushel. The Farmers' Club, a scientific body of agriculturalists in the city of New York, are engaged in investigating the source of the evil, but have not arrived at any conclusion. It is recommended, however, that the seed be renewed from the ball, or that potatoes for seed be obtained from distant points.

There is no appearance of rot we believe in Michigan.

☞ The present is not a fair *specimen* number of the Farmer, under its new management. Our time has been so much occupied in matters pertaining to the arrangement of the office, that we have found it impossible to do justice to either ourselves or the readers of the Farmer.

☞ Cattle should have a plenty of good water.—This is important.

Professor of Agriculture.—A Professorship of Agriculture has been established in Amherst College, Mass. The Professorship is conferred upon Alonzo Gray, author of "Scientific and Practical Agriculture." We hope the time is not distant when this branch of science shall be taught in the University of Michigan.

From the Albany Cultivator.

Continuance of Milk in Cows.

Messrs. Editors—It certainly would be a very great advantage to those who wish to keep a cow or cows, solely for their milk, if any feasible method could be adopted by which cows could be made permanent milkers, or their owners, particularly those who live in cities, be saved the trouble and inconvenience of their breeding.—There are two ways in which this seems practicable. The first method is to keep the cow in milk, from the bull, by constantly stabling her, after her first and second calf, and in this state, milked regularly and well fed, she will continue to give milk for two or more years. She usually ends, however, by becoming too fat for profit as a milker, her milk gradually failing, and she then goes to the butcher. The large dairies of London, have their cows treated in this manner, and in practice it is found far preferable to the old one, of having them "*come in*" annually.

There is another method of obtaining constant milkers which has been extensively practiced in France, and known to some extent in this country. This is by *spaying the cow* some four or six weeks after calving, and thus by preventing impregnation, securing the cow in milk for several years. In the London Veterinarian may be found a paper by M. Rogere of Bordeaux in France, who had for many years been engaged in a series of experiments on this subject, that had been eminently successful. The cows operated upon were of various ages, some quite old. The operation of spaying was followed with a restricted diet to prevent the tendency to inflammation. This had the effect of reducing the quantity of milk for a few days, but the flow soon returned, and continued unaffected for a long time. No danger was incurred by the operation when skilfully performed, and when from age or failure of milk, it became desirable to make beef of the animal, she was found altogether superior for that purpose to the unspayed ones.

In one of the earlier volumes of Ruffin's Farmer's Register may be found a paper on spaying cows or heifers, not only for milk, but for feeding. Mr. Tabb of Virginia, under whose superintendence the operations were conducted, confirms the represetations made of the value of milch cows so operated upon, but thinks it not less essential or important where cows or heifers are to be fed. The following extract is from Mr. Tabb's paper. "The operation is performed on heifers not intended for milk when they are about a year old, and with the single precaution of keeping them entirely from food or water during twenty-four or thirty-six hours previous—is not attended with the least risk—is performed in the same way, and may be done by any person in the habit of spaying pigs. They go to their food immediately after, and require no attention. We select the most indifferent heifers to spay, which is one way to improve the stock. You increase the size amazingly. They gradually become as large as ordinary oxen—are easily kept—make the finest beef—and as they are not in

perfection until six or seven years old, we work them after three or four, to make them gentle, and for that purpose, consider them superior to the ox."

The practice of working milch cows is common in Germany, as appears from the accounts of various travelers in that country; and teams of spayed heifers have carried off prizes at the plowing matches of Agricultural Societies in England. The suggestion made above, by Mr. Tabb, as to the practice of spaying having a good effect in the improvement of stock, is an important one. If the breeders of stock could so far forego the hope of immediate profit, as to be willing to submit all inferior, or part blood bull calves to castration, and all inferior heifers to spaying, it is evident the chances of breeding inferior animals, would diminish rapidly.

Mr. Winn, keeper of an extensive hotel at Natchez, communicated to Judge Peters, of Pa., the result of experiments made by him in spaying cows for the purpose of securing permanent milkers. It appears from the paper as given in the Transactions of the Penn. Ag. Soc. that he had two cows, which after being spayed, gave milk constantly for three years each. He preferred cows that had produced two or three calves, as the bags of such would be more capacious, than if spayed after the first calf. I hope some of our breeders or farmers will try this experiment, since if successful, there can be no doubt such cows would command greatly advanvanced prices in places where cows are kept for their milk alone. A Farmer.

Collars *vs.* Yokes.—Do you ask where a person can be found to make the experiment of collars instead of yokes? I answer, in Mr. Cheevel Newhall, of Dorchester, whose elegant place and fine animals designate him as he to whom we might look for the introduction of one of the most useful and important innovations of the age. Oxen, when harnessed in this way, are worked like horses; if single in a cart, the pad of the shaft harness rests on the back; if double in a wagon, two pairs of light shafts are used; while in plowing with the collar, they are equal in speed to the horse, and will be found to go through their labor with as little fatigue; their heads being free and more erect, they will not be liable to drop and die in hot weather.

In Mr. Coleman's forthcoming notes of his agricultural tour in England, we shall no doubt find ample testimony in favor of the humane substitution here advocated; for he will daily witness many *teams* of oxen—no longer *yokes*—in the streets of London, taking over the pavements the heaviest loads, with the most perfect ease and facility; their feet shod, and their convenient harness enabling them to pass along the crowded streets without the least difficulty, or danger to the passengers—sure footed and staunch in their draught, to a proverb. He will also have the opportunity of contrasting this mode of gearing with that now in use on some parts of the continent, where the wretched animals are made to draw by means of chains hung to a broad board affixed to their foreheads by straps passing around their horns.—*Boston Cult.*

Mending a Tree.—The Boston Cultivator says—"We saw at Isaac Frost's, Newton, a tolerable large apple tree that had the bark eaten all around by mice, some years ago, and of course would have died, without some extra pains to save it. Mr. Frost set about a dozen scions in the tree, one end in the green bark and wood below, and the other above the wound. They all took at both ends and grew well, except one which took only at the bottom, and is forming a little tree by itself. The scions are about two inches in diameter and are touching each other. The tree is in a fine flourishing condition."

Cob Meal.

Messrs. Editors:—I noticed sometime since an article in your paper—editorial, I think—in which it was urged upon farmers to *grind their cobs*, as the meal was valuable for many purposes on the farm—particularly for poultry, hogs, and stock.

On the strength of this suggestion, I "acted," and can now assure you, so well satisfied am I with the result, that my cobs will never, as heretofore, be "uselessly thrown away." As I grind my cobs with the corn, I cannot speak definitely as to the value of cob meal when used in its pure and unmixed state, but I am satisfied that there is a very important saving attained by economizing cobs in the manner you direct. I have, during the last three months, fed corn and cob meal to my horses, cattle, hogs, and calves, and as I have a large stock this winter, and have thus far fed them wholly on the products of my farm, the saving to me, from this simple suggestion, has, I assure you, been of no small value as regards the *purse*.—*Maine Cultivator.*

Ripe Fruit and Dysentery.—There is a pernicious prejudice with which people are too generally imbued—that fruits are injurious in the dysentery—that they produce and increase it.—There is not, perhaps, a more false prejudice.—Bad fruit, and that which is imperfectly ripened, may occasion colics, and sometimes diarrhœa, but *never* epidemic dysentery. Ripe fruits of all kinds, especially in the summer, are the true preservatives against this malady. The greatest injury they can do, is in dissolving the humors, and particularly the bile, of which they are the true solvents, and occasion a diarrhœa. But even this diarrhœa is a protection against the dysentery. Whenever the dysentery has prevailed, I have eaten less animal food and more fruit, and have never had the slightest attack. I have seen eleven patients in one house; nine were obedient to the direction given, and ate fruit—they recovered. The grandmother, and a child she was most partial to, died. She prescribed for the child burnt *brandy* and oil, powerful aromatics, and forbade the use of fruit. She followed the same course herself, and met the like fate. A minister attacked with dysentery, ate three pounds of red currants between 7 o'clock in the morning and 9 in the evening—next day he was entirely cured.—*Tissot.*

Storing Roots.—Ruta bagas should never be put in the house cellar, to any great quantity, on account of the offensive odor which proceeds from them when the least degree of decay occurs. These, as well as other roots, may be well kept by pitting them. Choose a dry knoll, near the ground where they are raised, and dig a trench about a foot deep running north and south, and as wide as you please. After the tops are cut off, pile the roots in the trench house-roof fashion. Let them be in a dry state when put in.—Place on a light layer of straw, covering in thinly with dirt, and then with a crowbar, pierce some holes in the top, to let off the steam. Let them remain thus till the severe frosts are about to set in; then put on another covering of straw and a thick covering of earth, closing the south end with several bundles of straw, which can be removed at pleasure when you wish to get at the roots. Be careful to make holes for the escape of the steam, when the roots are first put in. In this way (says Mr. Colman) they may be kept safely till spring.—*New England Farmer.*

The boiling or steaming of dry food, and even of potatoes and turnips, is recommended by many as an economical practice. Professor Johnston believes the general result of the numerous experiments which have been made upon this subject in various parts of England, is in favor of this opinion in so far as regards fattening and growing stock. It seems a more doubtful practice in the care of horses which are intended for heavy and especially for fast work—though Stephens in his *Book of the Farm*, says that even for these animals, the use of steamed food is coming into use with extensive coach contractors.

Milking of Cows.

A "small tenant farmer" has forwarded to us the following communication:—"I was induced to try the milking of a cow three times a day, viz: morning, mid-day and night; and I find that it has answered better hitherto this dry hot weather than under the old system of milking twice a day. More milk is obtained, and the cream on the mid-day's milking is twice as thick as on the morning's milk, and three times as thick as on that milked at night. Some of my neighbors, who have been farmers all their lives, prognosticate that my cow will be ruined, and next year that she will fall off to nothing; but taking a common sense view of the thing, and as it is sanctioned by the agricultural society, I shall go on with it. My cow looks well enough at present."—*Stafford Advertiser.*

Hollow Horn.—It is familiar to farmers that when any animal has been subject to this complaint, that upon the return of winter the complaint will return again frequently. The complaint may often be kept off in such cases, simply by wrapping the horn with woollen cloth or sheep skin with the wool turned inwardly, and keeping it well bound on through the winter. As soon as the horn begins to become carious, it becomes internally sore, and it sometimes happens that all efforts to save an animal afflicted with this complaint are ineffectual, merely for the want of wrapping the horns, and thereby imparting that warmth to the parts intended to be healed, which all know is necessary for any wound or sore in winter in order to heal it.—*Cultivator.*

Ventilation and cleanliness are very important helps to economy in the feeding of all animals. Shelter and warmth will do harm, if free and pure air is not admitted to the fattening stock. The same is true of cleanliness, so favorable to the health of all animals. The cleaner their houses and skins are kept, the more they thrive under any given form of treatment in other respects.—*Johnston.*

Potator Onions.—The Brockport (N. Y.) Watchman says that Mr. J. Greenleaf, of that place, has raised this season, 500 bushels of potato onions from an acre of land. Some of the largest weighed 1½ lbs. each, and were 17 inches in circumference. This kind of onions is thought by some to be valuable as an early sort—they grow wholly in the ground, like the potatoe. They are said to be mild and palatable.

An excellent mode for preventing young fruit trees from becoming hide bound and mossy, and for promoting their health and growth, is to take a bucket of soft soap, and apply it with a brush or old-cloth to the trunks from top to bottom; this cleanses the bark, and destroys the worms or the eggs of insects, and the soap becoming dissolved by rains descends to the roots and causes the tree to grow vigorously.

Eau de Cologne.—The sweetest lady in the world recommended to us the following recipe for making cologne:

Mix 120 drops oil of bergamot;
120 drops oil of lavender;
120 drops oil of lemon;
60 grains of musk, and
1 pint of purest alcohol.—*South. Planter.*

Two tea-spoonsfull of finely powdered charcoal, (says the N. Y. Herald,) drank in a half tumbler of water, will in less than fifteen minutes, give relief to the sick head ache, when caused, as in most cases it is, by superabundance of acid on the stomach.

Management.—You will always observe one thing among inferior women. They will make more noise in endeavoring to keep their children quiet than the children themselves, and yet the little ones will be forever in an uproar; while a woman of intelligence not only keeps her family quiet, but herself also.

Young Mens' Department.

The Ruined Son.

"He can fight his own way, if not, let him get killed," said a mother to one who expressed an anxiety for her forward child. And what think you was the history of that son, trained under such culture? Did he live to fill some high sphere of usefulness in life—to adorn society—to gild the evening of his parents' days, and in the fulness of his own, depart in peace? Was his course such as shed a bright and hallowed radiance on all around? or was it one of waywardness and crime, as was its early promise? Alas! that early promise was but too fearfully fulfilled. The shade which rested upon his opening life thickened and darkened as that of life advanced.

Of the incidents of his youthful days I know little save as they may be gathered from his general history. He was self-willed and irritable; he was overbearing and proud; but whether these and other traits developed themselves fully in daily intercourse with his brothers and sisters, I cannot say with certainty. It is probable they did. How could it be otherwise when we know that two of his brothers possessed characters and dispositions similar to his, and that both of them, after a short career, came from like causes to an untimely end. If it were so, if the passions of those ill-starred youth strove and warred within the family circle; if THERE UNCURED they gather strength for future strife, we'll let it pass, and look at what in after time was done.

At a proper age, he entered into business with all the expectancy of youth. But his habits were careless and extravagant. He was proud of expenditure and show; he loved the wine bottle and the card table, and he failed. He REPUDIATED his debts, and in a distant place sought to repair his ruined fortune. He began again, the same man, with the same reckless habits of business and dissipation, and the same result followed. Having squandered thousands of borrowed capital and betrayed the confidence of such as had trusted him, he again fled the reach of justice to act anew a faithless part.

But crime is progressive—and now he began to develope that more desperate character for which he became distinguished, and of which he had all along given promise. If report be true, he shared deeply in robbery and blood, which another was doomed to expiate *alone*. His, however, was to be *no doubtful* share in crime. Vengeance he had swore on one, and death alone could satiate his wrath. He marked that victim, and in a chosen hour aimed his blow. For once it failed. Yet still his purpose faltered not. The thing was fixed; that man must die. Month after month he prowled in search of opportunity to effect his dark design. He hired the assassin's guilty aid, and he himself waylaid his victim. Failing in this, he shot him dead in broad daylight. He fled from justice to a foreign land, but not to live in penitence. He had not filled the measure of his crime until again he did the work of death. This done, to show his hardihood in villany he boasted of these deeds and glorified in his shame. But sudden vengeance overtook him unawares. As outraged community dragged him from all forms of law, and in spite of prayers and cries, poured tenfold death upon him in its most sudden and awful form.

I have already said that his two brothers came to their end by violence. I might say also that a sister, divested of the gentleness peculiar to her sex, possessed the fury of a tigress. It was, in fact, a *ruined family*. But why? Because that mother ruined it. Other influences had their agency, but the most powerful was hers. She taught those lessons of blood in language of which we have given a specimen. She gave the early tendency.—The thirst for strife, the desperate resort, the cool revenge were hers. She taught those ruined sons the way to death. She did it in their youth, and when they grew they never forgot it. She sowed the seed—she reaped the fruit.

Oh! there is something in early paternal impressions which is imperishable for good or evil. A mother's voice pleading for righteousness and God, can never be forgotten.—The son may wander long in sin, may seem all but given over, and yet he will one day heed that voice of love. Its memory will come upon him when on life he is tempest-tost, or doomed to death. And then he will turn and flee from the wrath to come.

But let his early thoughts be turned to vice, let a mother's hand lead him astray from God and let her voice be heard in favor of carelessness and strife, of unbelief and sin, and all hope of his return is gone. His end is almost sure destruction. Unless rescued by abounding grace he will be a "*ruined son.*" Such was the subject of this notice. And now there live those the pathway of whose life he has made fearfully dark and dreary—whose hopes are blighted, and whose hearts are "smitten and withered like grass."—*Family Magazine.*

CURE FOR THE DISTEMPER IN CATTLE.—I cannot resist giving a receipe for the treatment of beasts that may take the prevalent distemper. It showed itself last winter in one of my yard stock, by its discharging abundant saliva from the mouth, with sore and inflamed tongue and gums, no appetite, confined bowels, and very hot horns. I desired the bailiff to give him one half-pint of the spirit of turpentine, with one pint linseed oil, repeating the oil in twenty-four hours, and again repeating it, according to the state of the evacuations. At the end of twenty-four hours more, the bowels not having been well moved, I repeated both turpentine and oil. In two days the beast showed symptoms of amendment, and in three or four took to his food again, and did perfectly well. All the yard beasts and two of the fattening beasts have had it, and all have been treated in the same manner, with perfect success. Little food beside oatmeal gruel was given.—*Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.*

SIMPLE AND EFFECTUAL REMEDY FOR HOVE IN CATTLE.—Try the remedy of an egg-shell full of tar, rather than attempt the barbarous practice of sticking. If two men hold the animal's head straight, a third its tongue to the right side, he can easily put down its throat an egg-shell full of tar, and in ten minutes relief will usually take place; but a second dose has never failed with my cattle, which are always kept at a brisk walking pace through the yard until relieved.—*Dublin Farmer's Gazette.*

BOYS that have been properly reared, are men in point of usefulness at sixteen: while those that have been brought up in idle habits are nuisances at twenty one.

AGRICULTURE is the art of raising crops;—husbandry, of preserving and expending them.

Mechanics' Department.

Mechanic Presidents.

It is a somewhat remarkable but interesting fact, says the Transcript, that *five* of our popular Insurance Offices in State street, have, for their Presidents at this time, *five* practical mechanics, sterling men, and active members of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Associations, all but one of whom have been in the Government of the Association, its President at this time, being of the number. They all fill the offices they now hold, honorably, and enjoy the entire confidence of their associates and fellow corporators. The record runs thus; Charles Wells, bricklayer, President of the Massachusetts Mutual; Ephraim Harrington, bricklayer, President of the State Mutual; Adam W. Thaxter, housewright, President of the Mechanics' Mutual; Enoch Hobart, Tailor, President of the Union Mutual; and James Clark, Pump and Block maker, President of the Boston Mutual,

Thus we see our upright and honorable mechanics filling the high places of the earth, and coming in for honorary distinctions with the proudest of our people; and, is it not a little curious, to trace the progress of knowledge, purely literary as well as scientific, and to observe how much mankind is indebted to the same class for learning and sound views. Our men of science, and some of our best professional characters are, and have been, sons of mechanics, who have learned from the parent stock, useful lessons of knowledge and virtue. This latter quality gains distinction both in this world and in the "better country." In the language of Bishop Horne, "There (in the Kingdom of God) virtue only gives precedence, and the meanest mechanic takes place of the Nobles and Kings of the earth, if he were a better Christian than they were."—*Boston Cultivator.*

MECHANICS' WIVES.—Speaking of the middle life, a good writer observes: "There we behold woman in all her glory, not a doll to carry silks and jewels, not a puppet to be flattered by profane adorations, reverenced today, discarded to-morrow; always jostled out of the place which nature and society would assign her, by sensuality or contempt; admired, but not respected; desired, but not esteemed; ruling by passion, not affection; imparting her weakness, not her constancy, to the sex she would exalt; the source and mirror of vanity; we see her a wife partaking the cares and cheering the anxiety of a husband, dividing his toils by her domestic diligence, spreading cheerfulness around her for his sake, sharing the decent refinements of the world without being vain of them, placing all her joys and happiness in the man she loves. As a mother, we find the affectionate, the ardent instructress of the children whom she has tended from their infancy, training them up to thought and virtue, to piety and benevolence; addressing them as rational beings, and preparing them to become men and women in their turn. Mechanics' daughters make the best wives in the world.

FOR MECHANICS.—Avoid giving any long credit, even to your best customers. A man who pays easily will not thank you for the delay; and a slack, doubtful paymaster, is not too valuable a customer to dun sharply and seasonably. A fish may as well attempt to live without wather, or a man without air, as a mechanic without punctuality and promptness in collecting.

Ladies' Department.

The last Word.

According to the last *scandal*, the assertion has been repeated from age to age that females are more given to *talk* than they of the other sex, whilst their obstinacy or wilfulness never permits them to give up an argument except they "have the last word"—which means, probably, that when wrong they insist that they are right, and very *possibly*, that being seldom *right*, their whole conversation degenerates into what is supercilliously styled "*all talk*"—as, for instance, when a person expresses an intention of achieving impracticabilities, or boasts of possessions that he has not any more than the man in the moon, the by-standers having a better knowledge of what is likely to be, and knowing the fallacy of such boasting declares the conversation to be all "*stuff*"—"*all talk*," vain boasting is all absurd, though we cannot admit that these perver ions of good sense belong more to one sex than the other, notwithstanding the captious observations of cynics both in the past and present time. There are *men* gossips, and *men* newsmongers, as well as those of the other sex, and we confess that the provinces of gossip seems more naturally to belong to woman than man, inasmuch, as they who are said to be endowed with the high attributes of "Lords of the Creation," should not be supposed to condescend to aught that is *small* or *trifling*. The love of tittle-tattle from which springs all that is styled gossip—all that deteriorates into *scandal*, is a most lamentable propensity, and not more honorable in one sex than in the other—never honored, but often leading to dishonor, malice, evil speaking, and the thousand ills and mischiefs for which the human tongue, if suffered to go unbridled, throws its better powers away.

But, we were not intending to write a homily upon habits of talking: we merely meant to throw in a doubt about "the last word" and a query whether this really is the self-assumed privilege, the insisted upon *right* of woman. Now, this reminds us of an anecdote related by Dr. James Johnson in his tour through Ireland. He had been trying an echo with a bugler by the name of Spillane in a gap of land suited for the purpose, and when the trial was over, and they once more on their way, the Dr. asked his companion why echo was always of the feminine gender? The bugler scratched his head, as if trying to elicit something from his brain; but soon acknowledged that he was unable to give a satisfactory answer. He observed that, although he heard her every day, yet he had never seen her, and could not tell whether she wore petticoats or small-clothes. All at once Spillane seemed struck with some new ideas, and exclaimed, "Maybe, your honor, that echo is represented as a female, because she always has the last word." A newly married couple were walking with the party when Spillane delivered himself of this brilliant conception, and to the bride the Doctor referred the solution of the enigma. She quickly and spiritedly replied, "What, Sir, would the lords of the creation wish to engross both the first and the last word? in that case, we poor women might lock up our tongues, as we do our jewels, to be used only on gala days?" Here the lady doubtless had "the last word," but it was because the Dr. and his companion knew not how to reply to her.

☞ As this is the season for BUCKWHEAT CAKES, the following recipe will at this time be valuable to those who are fond of them—a friend, who has tried the experiment, says that it makes decidedly better cakes, with half the trouble necessary in the usual mode of raising them with yeast. To three pints of buckwheat flour, mixed into a batter, add one tea-spoonful of carbonate of soda, dissolved in water, add one ditto of tartaric acid, dissolved in like manner—first apply the carbonate, stir the batter well, and then put in the acid—thus the use of yeast is entirely superceded, and cakes "as light as a feather" are insured. One great advantage is that the batter is ready for baking as soon as it is made.

Widows.

Young widows are always blithe. They ever meet one with a smile and flattering word. Can any one tell why? Young widows pay very scrupulous attention to dress. None know so well as they, what colors, black, or otherwise, are best suited to their complexion, nor what tricks of millinery best serve to heighten the beauty of their form. Their knowledge of this subject they will put in practice.—Does any one know why? Young widows, if at first pleasant, gay, and agreeable, through affectedness, presently become really so, through a habit. It is said that she who is married a second time, is a better wife to her second than to her first husband. Who can give the reason if I have not given it? Young widows are better pleased with old bachelors than with widowers. What can be the reason? Young widows are the most charming part of creation—the envy of one sex, and the beloved of the other—and why?

THREE HUNDRED SPINNING WHEELS IN OPERATION ON BOSTON COMMON.—In an Address delivered before the Caledonia (Vt.) Agricultural Society, by HENRY STEVENS, Esq., in which the importance of affording suitable encouragement to domestic manufacturss, is very forcibly set forth, the author says:—"We find in the American Annals, an account of an aniversary of a society for encouraging industry, held 1753, on which occasion Boston Common presented a novel sight.' In the afternoon, about three hundred young female spinsters, decently dressed, appearing on the common at their spinning wheels, the wheels were placed regularly in three rows, and a female was seated at each wheel, the weavers also appeared cleanly dressed, in garments of their own weaving. One of them working a loom on a stage, was carried on men's shoulders attended with music: an immense number of spectators were present at this interesting spectacle. The Rev. Dr. Cooper preached a discourse, and a collection was made for the benefit of the institution. Ladies of Boston whirling three hundred spinning wheels! These were afterwards the matrons who refused British tea, and who never saw a piano. Wonder if a thousand delicate ladies could not now be seen in the city, at their pianos, where one old fashioned rosy damsel could be found at the healthy exercise of the spinning wheel?"

Mr. Stephens adds—"The woman who manufactures for her own household, and one piece of goods to sell, does more to retain the solid coin in our State, than all the banks of the greatest financiers."—*Alb. Cultivator.*

"We call those *hose* madam, and not *feeling* or *stockings*," said a gentleman to an elderly matron who was not conversant in such matters. "I don't care whether you call them HOES or SHOVELS, I call them FEETINGS," was the reply.

FARMERS, LOOK AT THIS!

FARMERS are requested to call at ***HAYDEN & Co's. Produce Ware-House,*** (the first one west of the Rail Road Depot,) where they can sell for the highest price, in CASH, any quantity of WHEAT, GRASS SEED, FLAX SEED, CRANBERRIES, HIDES & SKINS, PORK, LARD, &c.

You can also buy ***Plaster,*** (a large lot just received,) ***Salt,*** new and never exposed to the weather,—***Pine shingles, Leather*** of all kinds, ***Paints, Oil, Water Lime, Plastering Hair, &c.*** at the lowest price for cash, or in exchange for Produce.

Jackson, Sept. 2, 1844. 9-3m*

ALBERT FOSTER,

EDGE TOOL MANUFACTURER,

JACKSON MICHIGAN.

HAS opened a New Establishment on Luther Street, immediately in rear of J. SUMNER & Co's store, where he will keep constantly on hand all kinds of

EDGE TOOLS,

of superior workmanship. The Farmes and Mechanics of Central Michigan are informed that he is at all times prepared to furnish or make to order every article in his line of business.

Jackson, July, 1844. n10tf

1844.

LAWSON, HOWARD & CO.

FORWARDERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS, DETROIT, MICH.

Warehouse foot of Shelby Street.

Agents for the Buffalo and Ohio Line, and New York Lake Boat Line, on the Erie Canal, in connection with Steamboats, Propellers and Vessels on the Lakes.

AGENTS.

E. W. BARNARD, R. J. VANDEWATER } 100 Broad street, N. Y.

J. H. MATHER. W. H. VANDEWATER } foot State st., Albany N. Y.

Chard, Meech & Co, Buffalo, New York.

All goods and property shipped by these lines insured on the Erie Canal, and persons shipping by them can be assured of as quick despatch as by any other line.

The undersigned are prepared to make contracts for the transportation of produce and merchandize by the above lines, and solicits the patronage of merchants, millers, &c.

*** ALSO, will make like advances and contracts at the Ware-House of SACKETT & EVERETT, Jackson.

LAWSON, HOWARD & Co., Agents.

Detroit, March 25, 1844.

Wool Wanted.

THE subscribers under the firm of Lathrop & Walcott, have received their machinery—are now prepared for the farmers to bring on their WOOL, and they can have it CARDED or manufactured into any of the following descriptions of cloth viz: common and fine fulled cloth; common and fine cassimeres; satinets flannel of wool and of cotton and wool for sheetings &c.; pressed cloths; plaids; checks: stripes—chambrays; carpets double and single; coverlets and almost every other description required for this section of country.

Also weaving any of the above—also rag carpets; tow and linen cloths; diapers; bagging &c. &c.

Their machinery being all new and of the most approved kinds, they flatter themselves that all who favor them with their work will be satisfied not only with the quality, but with the PRICE.

WOOL CARDING will receive particular attention at REDUCED prices.

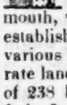
They will be prepared early in September to full and dress cloth for customers on the most reasonable terms.

The patronage of Farmers is solicited. Wool delivered for manufacturing will all be covered by Insurance in a responcible Company without charge to the owners.

H. B. LATHROP,
ALBERT WALCOTT.

Manufactory at the State Prison. }
Jackson, June 13th, 1844. } n10tf

A Splendid Farm for Sale!



SITUATED in the flourishing township of Plymouth, on a beautiful elevation of choice land overlooking the thriving village of Plymouth, which contains mills near by, a respectable establishment of stores, and industrious mechanics of various kinds. The farm contains 183 acres of first rate land, with good buildings, and a thrifty ORCHARD of 238 bearing trees, (all of the choicest kinds of fruit, from the early harvest to the everlasting stone apple, so called, which will keep for two years.)

The farm is under good improvement, with enough cleared land, and timber sufficient for all necessary purposes; also, a NURSERY of several thousand apple trees, besides other kinds of fruit trees—all of which will be sold for Five Thousand Dollars, and a good title given. Further information can be had from the subscriber residing on the premises.

DAVID MEECH.

Plymouth, Sept., 1844.

Foster's Improved Patent Pumps.

H. & F. M. FOSTER respectfully inform the public that they continue to manufacture and keep constantly on hand, at their Machine Shop, (on the east side of Grand River, near the Rail Road Depot,) in the Village of Jackson, superior PUMPS for Wells and Cisterns, made of the best materials, and warranted not to FREEZE. These Pumps have been extensively in use in the Eastern States, for 15 years, and the increasing demand for them, is evidence of the general satisfaction they have given.

Jackson, February 15, 1844.

Wanted,

In exchange for the "Michigan Farmer," or in payment of subscriptions to the same,—Wheat, Corn, Rye, Barley, Oats, Potatoes, Pork, Beef, Butter, Ham, Eggs, &c. &c. &c., for which the highest market price will be allowed, if delivered soon.

Farmer Office, September, 1844.

Miscellaneous.

Not to be Done.

A pleasant correspondent of a Boston paper, writing from New Orleans, gives the following incident:

You can buy nothing in New Orleans,(which is the case I believe in most Southern and Western cities,) for less than a "picayune," one sixteenth of a dollar. Coppers are hardly known, and dimes and "ninepences" (Boston currency) pass indiscriminately for "bits," or one-eighth of a dollar. I was amused at a little incident which I saw on board one of the Western boats.

A man from the North tried to pass ten coppers upon a "sucker" (a native of Illinois) for a dime.

"What be they?" inquired the sucker, turning over the coppers in unfeigned ignorance.

"I calculate they'er cents," replied the Northerner—"can't you read?"

"I reckon not," said the other; and what's more old hoss, I allow I don't want to. What is cents, mister?"

"I vow to judges," said the Englander, "you are worse than the heathen! Cents is money, sartin! Ten of them are worth one dime. Don't you see it says 'E Pluribus Unum'—that's the Latin for 'Hail Columbia!' and here it's inscribed one cent."

"Look at here, stranger," responded the sucker, putting the thumb of his right hand into his ear, and inclining his fingers forward, to indicate that he considered the other a jackass; "you may run that saw on a 'hoosier' or 'wolverine,' but I'm dod rotted if you Yankee me with the contusive stuff."

And he marched off to the social hall, to indulge in a drink of corn whiskey, in compliment to his own sagacity.

The Syrian Atmosphere.—The reader accustomed only to the denser air of Europe, can scarcely form a just idea of the etherial subtlety and transparency of the Syrian atmosphere. It is this which gives to the prospect from the mountains an amplitude and distinctness unparalleled in other lands. When Moses went up to Pisgah, he gazed over the whole inheritance of his people from north to south, and to the utmost sea. This he might have done without having had a miraculous power of vision imparted to him; and so might any man at this day, if he attained sufficient elevation. Four observers might command the whole of Syria, and from the tops of Casires, Leabonon and Tabor let nothing of a certain magnitude escape them within the vast horizon. Standing on the top of Sunnim, the spectator has on one side the indefinite expanse of the desert, stretching away towards the Persian gulf; on the opposite side, the sea, melting afar into the firmament, suggests to his mind the idea of infinite space; hardly can he at first distinguish between sea and sky at their line of junction, but is tempted to fancy that the solid earth floats in an immense double ocean.

It is not till he looks more narrowly and sees the little white sails specking the blue expanse of the waters, that he can get the better of the illusion. Landwards he discerns every sinuosity and indentation of the coast; every cape, promontory, and creek; every, mountain mass, with its rocks, woods, torrents, hillsides, villages and towns—an interminable extent, and all as distinctly traced as tho' he were looking on a huge map or a model spread before him on a level floor.

Curious Calculation.—Some singular genius has perpetuated the following calculations which are amusing:

"I have been married 32 years, during which time I have received from the hand of my wife three cups of coffee each day, two in the morning and one at night, making about 25,040 cups of half a pint each, or nearly 70 barrels of 30 gallons each, weigeing 17,520 pounds or nearly nine tons weight. Yet in that period I have scarcely varied myself in weight from 160 pounds. It will therefore be seen that I have drunk in coffee alone 218 times my own weight. I am not much of a meat eater, yet I presume I have consumed about eight ounces a day, which makes 5806 pounds, or about ten oxen. Of flour I have consumed, in the 32 years, about 50 barrels.

From 30 years of this time, up to 1831, I have drunk two wine glasses of brandy each day, making 200 quarts. The port wine, maderia, whiskey punch, &c., I am not able to count, but they are not large. In champagne I have been extremely moderate, as I find from my bills that I have paid for 53 baskets in the last 13 years, which is about one bottle a week, and this not all consumed by me. When we take into the account all the vegetables in addition, such as potatoes, peas, asparagus, strawberries, cherries, apples, pears, peaches, raisins, &c., the amount consumed by an individual is most enormous. Now, my body has been renewed more than four times in 32 years; and taking it for granted that the water, of which I have drunk much, acts merely as a diluent, yet taken together, I conclude that I have consumed in 32 years about the weight of 1,100 men of 160 pounds each.

Packing of Figs.—The progress of packing figs in drums for exportation is considered as one of the "curiosities" of Smyrna, though in truth it is simple enough, and conducted without any mystery. After drying on the tree, they are brought from the country on camel's backs; and we met long rows of those animals toiling up the crooked and dirty street, and with their huge loads towering far above our heads. The figs are then turned out in a heap in the middle of an apartment, round which are squatted a group of women and children, not very cleanly in appearence, who press them into a long shape from the stalk, and then hand them in sheaves to a party of women and men, who with a drum before them and a pail of salt water by their sides, form a little packet of figs in their hands, by pressing half a dozen close together, and place them round the inner edge of the drum, with the stalks inward. On completing the circle, they fill up the inside with as many as they can get in, and then sprinkle the whole with salt water to destroy the worm which each fig is said to contain, and produce a candid appearance by crystalization, and then proceed to the next layer. The whole operation is performed with incredible dispatch.—*Allen's Pictorial Tour.*

Patent Printer.—Among the inventions exhibited at the Boston Mechanics' Fair is the Patent Printer a machine, by which the blind or paralytic can print by the aid of patience and memory, whatever types can be made to do, by touching a series of keys, affixed to the different letters of the alphabet.

Describing his heroine, a writer says that she possessed, in a great degree, the strawberry of modesty, and the hot corn of affection.

Market Intelligence.

Jackson, Dec. 1.

Grain—Wheat fetches 65 cents; Corn 31½: Oats 14; Barley 31½: Rye 31½.

Flour, $3 50.

Provisions—Pork is worth $3 to 3 50; Butter 12 cents. All other articles as before reported.

New York, Nov. 27.

Ashes—Pots still sell as wanted, at $4. Pearls are steady, but in limited demand, at $4 25 a $4 28.

Breadstuffs—Grain of all sorts is unchanged in prices. Flour is yielding a little—Genesee may be purchased at $4 62½ a 4 63½; Michigan $4 62½—Prime wheat is in fair demand at $1 a 1 01; southern corn 52 a 54 cents; oats, according to kind, 31 a 36; rye, 69 a 70 cents. All kinds of grain are in fair demand.

Provisions—Articles under this head remain without alteration. Ohio pork, Mess, we quote at $8 93 a $9; Prime is still held at $6 75. There is very little doing in Beef: we quote Mess at $5 37½ a $5 50; Prime at $4 43¾ a 4 75. Ohio lard is in fair request, and we quote barrels at 5¾, and kegs at 5¾c.

CREDIT LIST.

Receipts on subscription to the Michigan Farmer from Nov. 1st, to December 1st 1844.

Spring Arbor subscribers $6; L. W. Adams, Franklin, $1 50; J. B. Packard, Mason; O. L. Cooper, Lima: Wm. Tanner, Fentonville; Hecter Hayes, Lyons, $2 each, W. H. Jennings, Cayuga; Isaac R. Rumery, Napoleon; Geo. Gates, Liberty; L. F. Penfield, Mich. Centre; Orrin Gillett, Cayuga: Z. Lawrence, Barry; W. J. Hodge, Pulaski; John H. King, Rives; Silas Newell, Merrit Ripley, Fentonville; J. L. Simmons, West Farmington; P. Arthur, Homer; A. L. Jordon, Carlisle; S. Selden; S. Upton, Smithfield; M. L. Shurtz, Borodino; B. H. Deming, Napoleon; E. Whaley, Lima; C B Seymour Scio; Jacob Barnhart, Northville; National Hotel, Detroit; Thos. M. Maston, Dearborn; Dea. Brewster, James Willson, Clinton, $1 each. E. Y. Palmer, Napoleon; G. W. Watkins, Grass Lake: H. Hutchinson, Adrian; M. Keables, Hanover; J. F. Rupley, Dearborne; T. Green, Elba, 75 cents each. J. Whitten, Jonesville; B. Pierson, Livonia, 50 cts. each. A. Smith, Lyma, 33 cents. R. H. King, Rives; H. Hurd, office, 25 cents each. J. Miller, Plymouth; F. Brown, Nankin, 17 cents each.

BANK NOTE LIST.

[CORRECTED FOR THE MICHIGAN FARMER.]

MICHIGAN.		Bank of Buffalo	55 dis
F & M B'k & Branch	par	Clinton county	30 dis
Bank of St. Clair	par	Watervliet	30 dis
Mich Insurance Co	par	Com bank Buffalo	30 dis
Oakland County Bank	par	Com bank Oswego	30 dis
River Raisin Bank	par	Bank of Lyons	30 dis
Mer B'k Jackson Co		B'k America, Buff	40 dis
Bank of Michigan	68 dis	B k Commerce do	45 dis
State Scrip	3 a 4 dis	Bank of Oswego	50 dis
State Warrants	34 dis	Bank of Lodi	20 dis
OHIO.		Binghampton	25 dis
Specie paying banks	par	Cattaraugus county	40 dis
Cleveland	55 dis	Erie do	50 dis
Com bank Scioto	25 dis	Mechan b'k Buffalo	50 dis
" Lake Erie	15 dis	Mer Ex bank do	50 dis
Far bank Canton	60 dis	Miller's bank, Clyde	20 dis
Granville	75 dis	Phœnix b'k, Buffalo	40 dis
Hamilton	25 dis	Tonawanda	dis
Lancaster	30 dis	U. S. bank, Buffalo	35 dis
Mer & Trader's Cin	15 dis	Western New-York	35 dis
Manhattan	90 dis	Staten Island	55 dis
Miami Exp Com	60 dis	Olean	40 dis
Urbana bank'g Com	60 dis	Alleghany county	75 dis
INDIANA.		St. Lawrence Stock &	
State bank & bran	1 dis	Real Estate Notes	55 dis
State Scrip	30 dis	Stock Notes	75 dis
ILLINOIS.		State bank, Buffalo	80 dis
State bank	50 dis	Wash'n b'k, N. Y.	10 dis
Shawneetown	50 dis	Union b'k, Buffalo	35 dis
KENTUCKY.		**CANADA.**	
All good banks	2 dis	All	2 dis
PENNSYLVANIA.		**WISKONSAN.**	
Specie paying	1 dis	Fire & Marine Insurance Co. Checks	1 dis
Erie	2 dis	**MISSOURI.**	
Relief Notes	5 dis	State bank	2 dis
NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, & NEW ENGLAND.	par		

Stoves and Tin Ware.

FARMERS, if you want to buy the best kind of STOVES and TIN WARE, call at Barrett's Tin & Stove Store,—where you can the best, cheap as dirt, for Cash or ready pay. ☞ Sign, Washington's likeness, made of cast iron.

W. F BARRETT.

Jackson, October 1844.